

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 MC-02 ACDA-05 PM-03

TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00

(ISO) W

----- 055849

R 061400Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4451

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0258

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, ETRD, SF

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SALE OF SIKORSKY A-65 HELICOPTERS TO SOUTH
AFRICAN FIRM

REF: CAPE TOWN 227; STATE 36427

1. CONGEN HAS RECEIVED LETTER DATED MARCH 4, 1975 FROM D.E. TODD,
GENERAL MANAGER, COURT HELICOPTERS (PTY)LTD. WHICH CONTAINS FOLLOWING
REPLIES TO QUESTIONS (A) THROUGH (F) OF PARA TWO IN STATE 36427:

(A) THE AIRCRAFT WILL BE ON CONSTANT STANDBY TO MEET ANY
EMERGENCY AT SEA WHICH MAY REQUIRE SEARCH AND RESCUE
OR WHICH PRESENTS A POTENTIAL OIL POLLUTION THREAT.
OTHER THAN MINIMAL CONTINUITY AIRBORNE TRAINING OF
COURT CREWS, THE AIRCRAFT WILL BE ENGAGED IN SHIP
SUPPLY SERVICE.

(B) NO

(C) (I) COURT HELICOPTERS ENGINEERING STAFF
(II) COURT HELICOPTERS ENGINEERING STAFF

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(D) WE ANTICIPATE THAT FOUR SERVICEABLE AIRCRAFT,
WITH THE FIFTH UNDERGOING MAINTENANCE, SHOULD
MEET THE PRESENT ANTI-POLLUTION/SEARCH AND
RESCUE REQUIREMENTS OFF THE SOUTH AFRICAN COAST.
WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE PURCHASING OTHER S-65
HELICOPTERS BUT, NEVER-THE-LESS, AS EXPERTS IN
THIS PARTICULAR FIELD, DO NOT PRECLUDE THE
POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING THE SERVICE TO OTHER
PARTS OF THE WORLD.

(E) NONE

(F) YES

2. LETTER CONTAINS ADDITIONAL STATEMENT AS FOLLOWS: "WE
CONSIDER THAT OUR COMPANY CAN MAKE A MOST WORTHWHILE CONTRI-
BUTION TO MINIMISE THE EVER INCREASING DANGER OF A MAJOR
CATASTROPHY INVOLVING LADEN TANKERS AT SEA. IN THIS REGARD
WE FEEL THAT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, IN GRANTING PER-
MISSION FOR THE PURCHASE OF THESE HELICOPTERS, WILL BE SERVING
THE BEST INTERESTS OF NOT ONLY THE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL OIL
COMPANIES AND THEIR INSURERS BUT THE PEOPLES OF SOUTH AFRICA
AND CONSERVATIONISTS THE WORLD OVER.

" SHOULD ANY FURTHER INFORMATION BE REQUIRED WE WOULD BE MOST
PLEASED TO MAKE OURSELVES AVAILABLE AT YOUR CONVENIENCE."

3. SIGNED LETTER WILL BE POUCHEO DEPT MARCH 7 ATTN. PM/MC,
COPY TO AF/S AND OIC PRETORIA.
GAMON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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